

REMARKS

This is a response to the Office Action mailed August 24, 2004. Claims 1-11 and 29-40 are pending. Claims 1, 4, 5, 6, 8, and 32 are amended. Claims 2, 3, 7, 9, and 12-28 are canceled. Reconsideration and allowance of the instant application are respectfully requested. Applicants reserve the right to file any deleted subject matter in a continuation application.

The indication that claims 3, 7, 8, 32, and 33 contain allowable subject matter is appreciated. Claim 1 was amended to recite the limitation of claims 2 and 3. Claim 6 was amended to recite the limitation of claim 7. Claim 8 was rewritten as an independent claim combining claims 6 and 8 (without the limitation of claim 7.) Claims 4 and 5 were amended to depend on claim 1 and claim 32 was amended to depend on claim 6. No new matter or new issues are raised with this amendment.

Claims 9, 29, 31, and 33 stand rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph. These claims have been canceled rendering the rejection moot. Applicants do not acquiesce in the rejections and reserve the right to respond to the Examiner's contentions in a continuation application.

Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 10, 11, 29-31, and 34-40 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as unpatentable over Moore in view of Rothman. Claims 6 and 9 stand rejected over Moore and Roth and further in view of Beckerman or Ohnishi. Claim 1 was rewritten to incorporate the limitation of claim 3. Claim 3 was not included in this rejection. Claim 6 was amended to incorporate the limitation of claim 7 and claim 8 was rewritten in independent form. In view of the above, these rejections are moot. Applicants do not acquiesce in the rejections and reserve the right to respond to the Examiner's contentions in a continuation application.

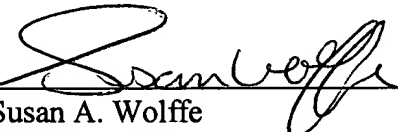
CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner believe that anything further is desirable in order to place the application in better form for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully urged to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at the below-listed number. If any additional fees are required or if an overpayment has been made the Commissioner is authorized to charge or credit Deposit Account No. 19-0733.

Respectfully submitted,

BANNER & WITCOFF, LTD.

Dated: 11/10/04

By: 
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